

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-12 (cancelled)

13 (currently amended). Process for providing a flow of particulate matter to a reactor, comprising the steps of:

intermittently adding said particulate matter and a diluent to a mixing tank, and continuously withdrawing a slurry of said particulate matter in said diluent from

the mixing tank for introduction into the reactor, and

~~wherein~~ prior to each addition of said particulate matter and said diluent to the mixing tank, measuring or calculating the concentration of said particulate matter in the diluent already in the mixing tank ~~is measured or calculated, and,~~

wherein the amount of said particulate matter and said diluent subsequently added is measured so as to achieve the same concentration at the end of the addition as that measured or calculated prior to the addition.

14 (previously presented). Process according to claim 13, wherein said particulate matter is a catalyst.

15 (previously presented). Process according to claim 13, wherein measurement of the amount of said particulate matter and said diluent added to the mixing tank is carried out before any of said diluent is added to said particulate matter.

16 (previously presented). Process according to claim 13, wherein said diluent and said particulate matter are added to the mixing tank separately.

17 (previously presented). Process according to claim 13, wherein some or all of said diluent is used to flush the measured amount of said particulate matter into the mixing tank.

18 (previously presented). Process according to claim 13, wherein the concentration of said particulate matter in said diluent is calculated using measurements of the volume or mass of said diluent in the mixing tank, and the mass of said particulate matter added to the mixing tank.

19 (previously presented). Process according to claim 13, wherein said particulate matter is first measured into a feed pot, which is subsequently emptied into the mixing tank.

20 (previously presented). Process according to claim 19, wherein said particulate matter is discharged into the feed pot from a vessel, and the amount measured into the feed pot is determined by weighing said vessel.

21 (previously presented). Process according to claim 13, further comprising means for measuring the mass flow of said particulate matter and said diluent out of the mixing tank to the reactor.

22 (canceled).

23 (currently amended). Process according to claim 13, ~~for controlling~~ wherein said reactor is a polymerization reactor and the process comprises the further step of controlling mass flow of catalyst to a said polymerization reactor.

24 (currently amended). Process according to claim 23, wherein the mass flow of said catalyst to a said polymerization reactor operating continuously varies by less than 10% during filing of the mixing tank.

25 (previously presented). Process according to claim 14, wherein said particulate matter is a polymerization catalyst.

26 (currently amended). Process according to claim 24, wherein said polymerization reactor is a continuous polymerization reactor and the mass flow of catalyst to a said continuous polymerization reactor varies by less than 5% during filing of the mixing tank.